THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government in consultation with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association has framed a Comprehensive Educational Loan Scheme to ensure that no deserving student in the country is deprived of higher education for want of finances. The new scheme will cover all type of courses in schools and colleges in India and abroad. The students may avail the loans from this academic session itself. The scheme envisages loans up to Rs. 7.5 lakh for studies in India and up to Rs. 15 lakh for studies abroad. For loans up to Rs. 4 lakh no collateral or margin is required and the interest rate is not to exceed the Prime Lending Rates (PLR). For loans above Rs. 4 lakh, the interest rate will not exceed PLR plus 1 percent. The loans are to be repaid over a period of 5 to 7 years with provisions of grace period of one year. The scheme has been circulated by RBI to all Scheduled Commercial Banks *vide* its circular dated 28.4.2001.

(c) and (d) As reported by RBI, after the announcement of the scheme letters were received from students/parents pertaining ta the non-receipt of instructions at branches of Banks. RBI has confirmed that Banks have now issued instructions to their branch level functionaries for implementation of the scheme in right earnest. Banks have also given publicity by way of advertisements in the Newspapers.

CARGO handling facilities at Chennai Airport

*138. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred by Government to renovate the various cargo units at airports during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have any plan to expand the cargo handling facilities at Chennai Airport; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Rs. 49.54 crores have been spent to renovate various cargo units during last three years.

(b) and (c) The expansion of Cargo Terminal at Chennai has been planned in four phases as under:—

Export Wing

Pesent Capacity	Addl. space in planned Phase-I	Addl. space in planned Phase-II
6000 Sq.m.	9866 Sq.m.	6577 Sq.m.

Import Wing

Prsent Capacity	Addl. space in planned Phase-III	Addl. space in planned Phase-IV
7800 Sq.m.	10462 Sq.m.	14250 Sq.m.

Phase-I of the project is under construction at a cost of Rs.42.84 crores and is likely to be commissioned by end of 2001.

Management of drought and flood

†*139. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any Scheme by laying down a target to get rid of drought and flood;

(b) if so, the outline of the scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.